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(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

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(21) Application number: 03013253.4

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**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR
HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR**
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK

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(30) Priority: 14.06.2002 US 172729

(71) Applicant: **McNeil-PPC**
Fort Washington, PA 19034 (US)

(54) **Applicator device for suppositories and the like**

(57) An applicator for delivering pharmaceutical products or the like to a bodily cavity includes a barrel member having a distal end which is equipped with an opening. The applicator also includes a plurality of petals extending outwardly from the distal end in a generally axial direction. The petals cooperate with the opening so as to form a receptacle for releasably receiving a pharmaceutical product in the distal end of the barrel member. Each of the petals has a truncated flexible tip

sized and shaped so as to engage a substantially central portion of the pharmaceutical product such that a large section of the pharmaceutical product extends outwardly beyond the petals so as to facilitate the release of the pharmaceutical product from the receptacle. The device also includes a plunger member for releasing the pharmaceutical product from the receptacle. In accordance with the present invention, the device can be packaged in a package together with the pharmaceutical product received in the receptacle.

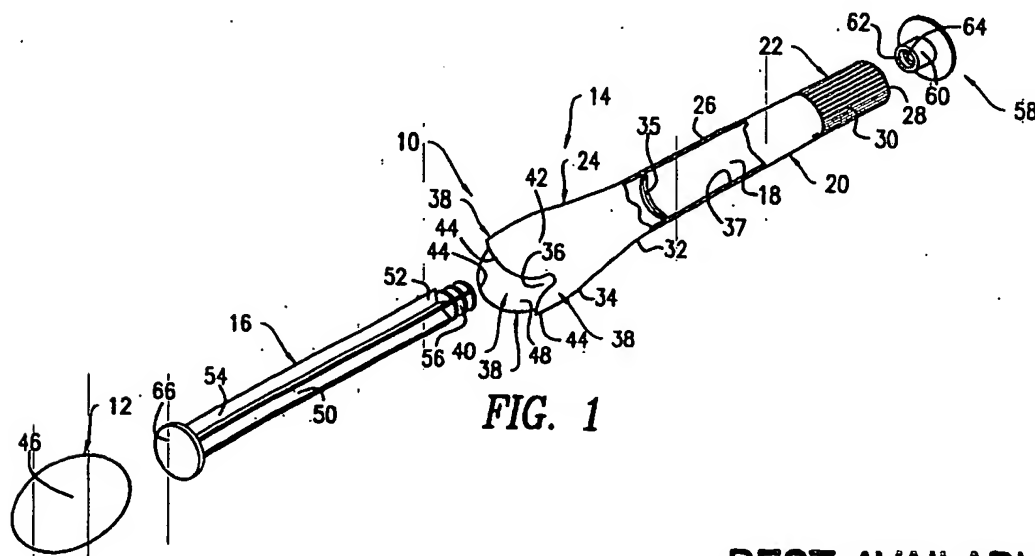


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 01 3253

| DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
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| Category | Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7) |
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| D,Y | US 3.934 584 A (CORIO NICHOLAS N.) 27 January 1976 (1976-01-27) * abstract; figures * | 4-8 | |
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| A | GB 2-097 259 A (VOSS JOSEPH A) 3 November 1982 (1982-11-03) * abstract; figures * | 1,10 | |
| A | GB 956 679 A (BREV R G L SOC D EXPL DE) 29 April 1964 (1964-04-29) * the whole document * | 1,10 | |
| | | | TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7) |
| | | | A61M A61F |
| The present search report has been drawn up for all claims | | | |
| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 12 December 2003 | Examiner Kousouretas, I |
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| US 3667465 | A | 06-06-1972 | CA 936774 A1 | 13-11-1973 |
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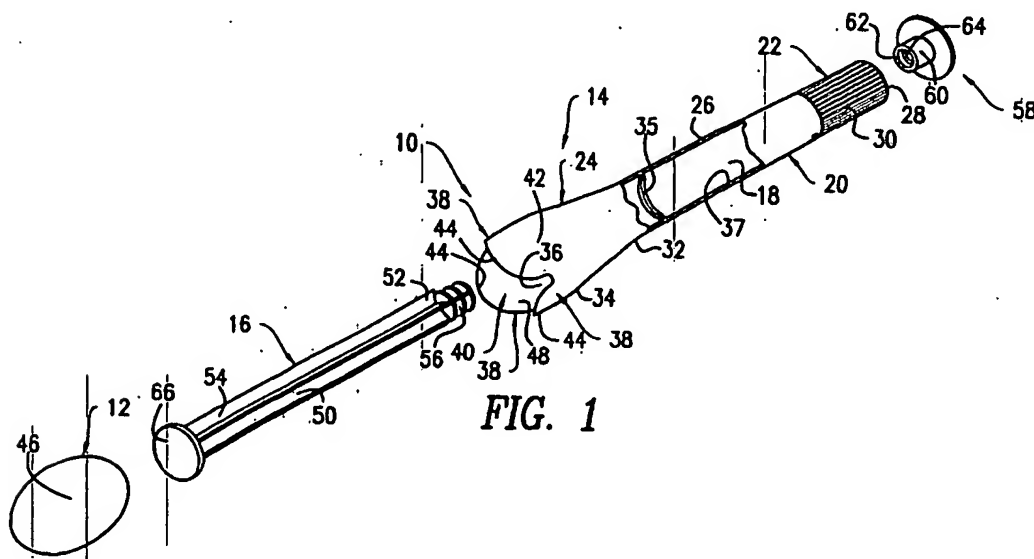


FIG. 1

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